

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 H-02 IO-10 SCA-01 PPT-01 /024 W

----- 097472

R 241009Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2779

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, SF, US, LT

SUBJ: VISA DIFFICULTIES OF AMCIT THOMAS TYLER

REF: A) STATE 225149

B) MASERY 1849

C) PRETORIA 3133

D) PRETORIA 3231

1. EMBASSY FIRST LEARNED OF TYLER CASE FROM AMEMBASSY MASERU MESSAGE OF MARCH 14, 1975. TYLER HAD ORIGINALLY APPLIED FOR SAG VISA THROUGH LESOTHO GOVERNMENT ON JANUARY 2, BUT RECEIVED NO RESPONSE FROM SAG UNTIL MARCH. IN LETTER DATED MARCH 13, SAG DEPARTMENT INTERIOR TOLD TYLER HE WOULD HAVE TO TRAVEL ON HIS UN LAISSEZ-PASSER WHILE HE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UN IN LESOTHO.

2. SUBSEQUENTLY, FOLLOWING ACTIONS IN CASE:

A. ON MARCH 27, AT THE REQUEST OF AMEMBASSY MASERU, EMBASSY PRETORIA RESUBMITTED TYLER FAMILY VISA APPLICATIONS TO DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR. ON APRIL 16, INTERIOR REAFFIRMED ORIGINAL STAND AND FORWARDED CASE TO DFA FOR ATTENTION.

B. ON APRIL 29, EMBASSY INFORMED MASERU OF OUTCOME AND FACT THAT MATTER BEING TAKEN UP FORMALLY WITH DFA BUT THAT DURATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF NEGOTIATIONS COULD NOT BE ESTIMATED.

C. IN A NOTE TO DFA ON MAY 1, PRETORIA OUTLINED CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASE TO SAG, DREW ATTENTION TO OVERRIDING APPLICABILITY OF VISA AGREEMENT BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES DATED MARCH 28, 1956, AND ASKED THAT APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES BE DIRECTED TO ISSUE VISAS TO TYLERS AND ANY OTHER AMERICANS WORKING FOR UN WHO ARE OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE AND PRESENT AMERICAN PASSPORTS FOR VISAS.

D. DFA DID NOT REPLY UNTIL JUNE 24. IN A NOTE OF THAT DATE DFA REAFFIRMED ITS POSITION QUOTE THAT SHOULD EMPLOYEES OF THE UN WISH TO ENTER SOUTH AFRICA, THEY SHOULD USE THEIR UN TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. THIS REQUIREMENT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE UN IRRESPECTIVE OF NATIONALITY. UNQUOTE.

E. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF APPOINTMENT MADE FOR OTHER PURPOSES, AMBASSADOR RAISED TYLER CASE WITH SA SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BRAND FOURIE JULY 10 (REF C). SECRETARY SAID HE UNAWARE OF CASE BUT PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT. HE EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH EMBASSY ARGUMENT THAT AMERICANS WISHING TO VISIT FOR PRIVATE PURPOSES SHOULD RECEIVE VISAS IN OWN PASSPORT.

F. MASERU ON AUGUST 14 (REF B) INFORMED DEPARTMENT AND PRETORIA OF RECEIPT COURTESY COPY OF LETTER FROM TYLER TO SENATOR HUMPHREY, AT WHICH TIME EMBASSY PROVIDED DEPARTMENT WITH BACKGROUND MATERIAL (REF C). (PRETORIA SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED COPY TYLER LETTER.)

G. DFA OFFICIALS TOLD EMBOFFS ON AUGUST 15 AND 18 THAT TYLER MATTER HAD PRECIPATED POLICY REVIEW IN DFA REGARDING ENTIRE QUESTION OF LAISSEZ-PASSER REQUIREMENTS FOR UN EMPLOYEES. RECOMMENDATION AND REVIEW WERE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FOURIE FOR APPROVAL UPON HIS RETURN FROM SOUTH AMERICA ON AUGUST 19 (REF C).

H. ON AUGUST 25 AMBASSADOR AGAIN RAISED TYLER CASE WITH DFA DEPUTY SECRETARY VAN DALSEN (REF D) AND WAS INFORMED THAT PRINCIPLE OF VISAS FOR UN EMPLOYEES STILL AWAITING TOP LEVEL POLICY DECISION, HAMPERED AT THAT MOMENT BY MORE URGENT RHODESIAN DEVELOPMENTS WHICH HAD PRECLUDED ATTENTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF SECRETARY AND PRESUMABLY PM VORSTER.

I. SUBSEQUENTLY, JUNIOR DFA OFFICIAL SUGGESTED EMBOFF MAKE FURTHER INQUIRES INTO TYLER FAMILY SA LAISSEZ-PASSERS TO SEE IF THERE MIGHT BE POSSIBILITY OF GRANTING TYLER DEPENDENTS SOME TYPE MULTIPLE-ENTRY DOCUMENT AS INTERIM MEASURE. TYLER REFUSED THIS, STATING HE AND WIFE STILL PREFER USING US PASSPORT WITH REGULAR SA VISA.

J. ON SEPTEMBER 18 DCM PHONED SECRETARY FOURIE AND INFORMED HIM THAT EMBASSY HAD MADE SEVERAL LOWER LEVEL INQUIRIES SINCE JULY BUT ALWAYS WITH REPLY THAT NO FINAL DETERMINATION HAD BEEN MADE. FOURIE PROMISED LOOK INTO MATTER TO SEE WHERE IT STOOD.

3. AMBASSADOR HAS APPOINTMENT TO SEE FOURIE SEPTEMBER 25 AND WILL RAISE MATTER AGAIN. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FOURIE'S RESPONSE.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR03618
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750331-0398
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750922/aaaaasvy.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 225149
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISA DIFFICULTIES OF AMCIT THOMAS TYLER
TAGS: CASC, SF, US, LT, (TYLER, THOMAS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006